

Summary of the
First Regular Session & First Special Session
of the 132nd Maine Legislature

Prepared by:



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*The general effective date for nonemergency laws passed in the **First Regular Session** of the 132nd Legislature is June 20, 2025.*

*The general effective date for nonemergency laws passed in the **First Special Session** of the 132nd Legislature is September 24, 2025.*

Emergency laws are effective immediately upon signature of the Governor.

Contents

We're pleased to share *HospitalityMaine's End of Session Report* for the 132nd Maine Legislature. From key takeaways for hospitality businesses to a full breakdown on the legislation we tracked on your behalf, this resource is designed to keep you informed and prepared.

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2025 Session Wrap-Up: A Message to Our Members

The 132nd Maine Legislature has adjourned with no official plans to return until January 2026. One of the most valuable parts of being a HospitalityMaine member is knowing your voice is being represented throughout the year—whether it's in your community, at the State House, or in Washington.

In total, nearly 2,000 bills were introduced, and hundreds were carried over into next year. HospitalityMaine tracked legislation across every committee and testified on dozens of proposals impacting restaurants, lodging businesses, and Maine's broader hospitality economy. While many proactive ideas to support employers were stalled, **we secured several key wins**, including:

- **Modernizing** an outdated law that prohibited businesses with liquor licenses from hosting outside food vendors. This change opens new economic opportunities for both established businesses and entrepreneurs trying to get a start.
- **Defeating** three separate proposals to raise lodging and institute new local taxes.
- **Blocking** a costly new pricing regulation proposal that was likely to impose millions in compliance costs across Maine's restaurants and hotels.
- **Standing firm** against income tax increases that would have made Maine's business climate even more challenging and less competitive.
- **Advocating for the passage** of a new law protecting energy choice, ensuring that municipalities cannot ban specific energy sources or systems businesses rely on.

This session also reinforced ongoing concerns about how the people's business is being done. Once again, another budget was passed by the majority party without bipartisan support, subverting a long-standing process that has nearly always led to compromise. Many major policies passed or failed by slim margins, often an indicator of a partisan process.

Despite certain challenges, this session proved once again how important it is for the hospitality industry to stay involved. Through regular briefings, a strong legislative committee, and direct outreach, we ensured your voice was in the room when it counted. We celebrate where we were able to move the needle—and are ready to carry that momentum in 2026.

Thank you for standing with us during a pivotal year. We'll keep showing up, and we'll keep bringing your voice with us.

Nate Cloutier, Director of Government Affairs



KEY CHANGES HOSPITALITY BUSINESSES

NEED TO KNOW

Alcohol & Tobacco

LD 494 **An Act to Update and Clarify Certain Provisions of State Liquor and Lottery Laws (Emergency)** [Public Law, Chapter 230](#)

This law makes several updates and clarifications to Maine's liquor laws.

Product Sales and Service: The law confirms that restaurants may serve canned cocktails. It creates a new license type for agency liquor stores that are purveyors of spirits. Restaurants are also clarified to be eligible for off-premises catering licenses.

License Conditions: For establishments holding both an on-premises restaurant or Class A license and an off-premises retail license, the law removes the requirement to sell food with the purchase of an alcoholic beverage. Instead, food must be available for free or purchase whenever alcohol is served on-premises.

Hotel Provisions: Hotels must have at least four guest rooms and be licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services to obtain a liquor license. Licensed hotels may also allow guests to transport alcohol to individual guest rooms.

Advertising and Sponsorships: This law allows wholesale licensees and manufacturers or brands of beer, wine, and spirits licensed in Maine to enter into advertising and sponsorship agreements with certain, limited licensed venues.

Things of Value Limits: Beginning January 1, 2026, liquor licensees and applicants may not receive more than \$750 annually in "things of value," including cash and gift cards. The law prohibits the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations (BABLO) from setting a cap on the total value of items in use by a licensee at any one time.

LD 1938 **An Act Regarding the Regulation of Tobacco** [Public Law, Chapter 367](#)

Effective January 5, 2026, this law bans smoking in all motel or hotel rooms rented to the public, removing a previous exception under Maine's tobacco laws.

Business & Labor

LD 55 **An Act to Amend the Law Governing the Accrual of Earned Paid Leave** [Public Law, Chapter 438](#)

This law updates the accrual rules in Maine’s Earned Paid Leave (EPL) law. Employees must be allowed to carry over accrued and unused EPL hours for use in the following year of employment. Hours that have been carried over cannot reduce the total amount of EPL that an employee can earn in the new year—up to 40 hours or the amount specified in the employer’s handbook, whichever is higher.

LD 414 **An Act to Prohibit Deceptive Pricing in the Rental of Short-term Lodging and in the Sale of Tickets** [Public Law, Chapter 311](#)

This law requires that any advertised price for short-term lodging or event tickets clearly display, up front, the total “all-in” cost, including all mandatory fees and charges, excluding only taxes or other government-imposed fees.

The law mirrors the Federal Trade Commission’s final rule on deceptive fee practices ([16 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 464](#)), meaning individuals or entities in compliance with the federal rule are also considered in compliance with this state law.

LD 598 **An Act to Require Minimum Pay for Reporting to Work** [Public Law, Chapter 418](#)

This law requires employers to pay employees if their shift is canceled or hours are reduced after the employee has already reported to work. Employers must pay the lesser of two hours at the employee’s regular rate or the total pay for the scheduled shift. For tipped employees, the calculation must use at least the full minimum wage, not the tipped wage.

The law applies only to businesses that regularly employ at least 10 employees for more than 120 days in a calendar year. There are exceptions when the pay requirement does not apply, including situations where the employee cannot work due to adverse weather, natural disasters, civil emergencies, illness or medical conditions, or workplace injuries.

If the employer makes a documented, good-faith effort to notify the employee not to report to work, the employer is not responsible for paying under this law. However, if the employee shows up despite being notified, they must perform whatever duties are assigned, so long as those duties can be physically completed by the employee. If the employer has no work to assign, the employer must pay the employee as required by this law.

Food Waste

LD 1065

An Act Regarding the Reduction and Recycling of Food Waste

[Public Law, Chapter 419](#)

Effective July 1, 2030, this law prohibits certain large food waste generators from sending food waste to landfills or incinerators. It applies to entities that generate 2 tons or more of food waste per week at a single location and are within 25 miles of an organics recycling facility that has available capacity.

Designated food waste generators must separate food waste from their regular trash and follow the following order of priority for how it's handled:

- Reduce the amount generated
- Donate edible food for human consumption
- Use as animal feed
- Composting or use anerobic digestion with the use of the material applied as a soil amendment
- Use anerobic digestion without the material being used on soil

Over time, the compliance threshold will expand to include smaller food waste generators, depending on how much waste they produce and their proximity to recycling facilities.

The law also updates the state's food recovery hierarchy and long-term waste reduction goals. Temporary waivers may be granted by the Department of Environmental Protection in cases of hardship.

Bills Passed into Law

Alcohol & Tobacco

[LD 262](#) **An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Taste Testing of Wine and Malt Liquor to Facilitate Marketing by Wholesalers (Emergency)**
[Public Law, Chapter 8](#)

This law expands the ability of malt liquor and wine wholesalers to host tasting events by allowing them to rent or lease an unlicensed venue.

[LD 1551](#) **An Act to Support Maine Eating and Drinking Establishments by Allowing Vendors to Operate on the Premises of an Establishment with a Liquor License (Emergency)**
[Public Law, Chapter 189](#)

This law allows an outside “vendor” – a person or entity who is not part of the host business – to prepare, serve, or sell food on the premises of a “host establishment,” regardless of whether that establishment has a liquor license.

Vendors may serve alcohol on the premises only if the alcohol is provided exclusively by the host and the host or host employee authorized to serve liquor is present. The host establishment must keep a written record of each vendor and their menu for at least one year and is responsible for ensuring the vendor complies with all food safety, health, and liquor laws.

[LD 683](#) **An Act to Clarify the Law Governing the Minimum Indirect Financial Interest Disclosure Requirement for Liquor Licenses**
[Public Law, Chapter 21](#)

This law changes the liquor license disclosure requirements so that only individuals with an indirect financial interest of 10% or more in the person applying for the license must be reported.

Appropriations

[LD 210](#) **An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2025, June 30, 2026 and June 30, 2027**
[Public Law, Chapter 388](#)

This law enacts the state’s supplemental budget, allocating an additional \$320 million to the biennial budget established under LD 609.

The Appropriations Committee ultimately rejected the Governor’s proposed tax increases on ambulances, pharmacies, as well as cuts to stipends for childcare providers. New spending has been funded through increases in the cigarette tax (\$1.50/pack), streaming tax (5.5%), cannabis tax (14% tax), removing previous cuts to retiree pensions (generating \$30M over two years), a paint tax (.50 cents/gal), fishing and hunting license fees (\$7.00), and real estate transfer tax (\$6.00 per \$500 over \$1M), to name some notable revenue sources.

Bills Passed into Law

[LD 609](#) **An Act Making Certain Appropriations and Allocations and Changing Certain Provisions of Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government**
[Public Law, Chapter 2](#)

This law is the state biennial budget, totaling \$11.3 billion in spending prior to the supplemental budget.

Business & Labor

[LD 66](#) **An Act to Expand Access to the Maine Wage Assurance Fund**
[Public Law, Chapter 192](#)

This law amends the Maine Wage Assurance Fund, which provides payments to employees who lose wages due to employer insolvency or bankruptcy. It doubles the maximum payout from two to four weeks of wages and adds an equal amount in liquidated damages payable to the employee.

[LD 80](#) **An Act to Designate the Seppala Siberian Sleddog as the Maine State Dog**
[Public Law, Chapter 56](#)

This law designates the Seppala Siberian Sleddog as Maine's official state dog. The designation is intended to support tourism through related marketing and events.

[LD 87](#) **An Act Regarding the State Workforce Board**
[Public Law, Chapter 154](#)

This law updates the State Workforce Development Board. It removes legislative review of member appointments, except for the Board Chair, who remains subject to review and confirmation by the Legislature. It also reclassifies rules related to industry partnerships for workforce development as routine technical rules, which do not require legislative approval.

[LD 706](#) **An Act Regarding the Laws Relating to Unemployment Insurance**
[Public Law, Chapter 235](#)

This makes several changes to the Unemployment Security Law.

It expands the definition of fraud, increases penalties for claims involving stolen identities, and raises the amount that can be withheld from benefits to recover overpayments. It tightens eligibility rules, including limiting job matches to previous work hours and commute, and removes the requirement to stay in contact with an employer during temporary layoffs.

Bills Passed into Law

[LD 767](#)

An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Licensing of Certain Types of Establishments and Professions by the Department of Health and Human Services

[Public Law, Chapter 339](#)

This law changes the complaint process within the Maine Health Inspection Program (HIP) by making reported complaints confidential. It also requires complainants to acknowledge that filing a false complaint is a crime under Maine law and that HIP may pursue legal action and prosecution for doing so.

[LD 788](#)

An Act to Promote an Innovation-driven Economy by Increasing Research and Development Spending

[Public Law, Chapter 146](#)

This law tasks the Maine Economic Growth Council to prioritize the goal of increasing research and development spending as a percentage of the state's economy to meet the national average by 2030. This builds on the \$25 million research and development bond approved by voters in 2024.

[LD 863](#)

An Act to Allow a Person or Organization Conducting a Raffle to Use an Approved Payment Management System

[Public Law, Chapter 222](#)

This law allows in-person raffles (non-internet) to use approved payment management systems to accept payments for raffle tickets. "Payment management systems" means a mobile application or other digital platform used to facilitate raffles.

[LD 874](#)

An Act to Provide Relief to Federal or State Employees Affected by a Federal Government or State Government Shutdown

[Public Law, Chapter 494](#)

This law creates the Government Shutdown Loan Guarantee Program, administered by the Finance Authority of Maine. It offers no-interest loans to eligible federal or state employees in Maine who are affected by a partial or full government shutdown lasting more than 7 consecutive days.

[LD 894](#)

An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Paid Family and Medical Leave

[Public Law, Chapter 277](#)

This law expands the enforcement and penalty powers of the Bureau of Paid Family & Medical Leave. It also clarifies that intermittent leave of less than one full workday may only be taken if both the employer and employee agree to it.

Bills Passed into Law

[LD 913](#)

An Act to Prohibit Ticket Sellers from Prohibiting the Transfer of Tickets to Third Parties

[Public Law, Chapter 354](#)

This law amends the ticket resale statutes to address price disclosure requirements and refund policies. It prohibits speculative ticket sales, the use of deceptive website addresses, and the use of bots to bypass online ticket purchase limits. It also establishes a cap on ticket resale prices at 10% of the total price of the original ticket, including taxes and fees.

[LD 1117](#)

An Act to Strengthen Maine's Workforce Through Certified Preapprenticeship Training Programs

[Public Law, Chapter 306](#)

This law expands the Maine Apprenticeship Program's grant authority for certified preapprenticeship programs. It allows funds to be used for participant support (childcare, transportation, tools, stipends), prioritizes funding to programs serving historically marginalized groups and those leading to high-wage apprenticeships, and sets eligibility requirements based on graduate outcomes. At least 51% of funds must go to programs meeting specific equity and wage benchmarks. Funding is awarded competitively.

[LD 1159](#)

An Act to Prohibit Governmental Entities That Charge a Fee for In-person Credit Card Purchases from Refusing to Accept Cash

[Public Law, Chapter 209](#)

This law requires municipalities and other governmental entities that charge credit card fees to also accept cash as a payment option. The original bill would have applied to private businesses as well, but that provision was removed.

[LD 1221](#)

Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor to Study Protection of Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program Funds

[Resolve, Chapter 63](#)

This resolve directs the Department of Labor to study how to ensure that all revenues from Maine's Paid Family & Medical Leave program are used solely for that program. The department must report its findings and any proposed legislation to the Labor Committee by January 15, 2026.

[LD 1554](#)

Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor to Report on Sexual Harassment

[Resolve, Chapter 90](#)

This resolve directs the Department of Labor to submit a report detailing employer compliance with workplace sexual harassment policies. The report must include instances of compliance and noncompliance, along with recommendations and any proposed legislation to improve enforcement and prevention efforts.

[LD 1844](#)

An Act to Expand the State's Workforce by Supporting the Transition from Incarceration to Employment

[Public Law, Chapter 485](#)

This law directs the Commissioner of Corrections to establish and maintain reentry services for residents of correctional facilities. Reentry services must include services related to health and wellness, financial literacy and planning, employment preparation, community and family integration, and technology training.

Bills Passed into Law

[LD 1877](#)

An Act to Increase Penalties for Human Trafficking Offenses

[Public Law, Chapter 387](#)

This law increases the amount a person convicted of sex trafficking or aggravated sex trafficking must pay to the Victims' Compensation Fund.

Energy & Environment

[LD 1](#)

An Act to Increase Storm Preparedness for Maine's Communities, Homes and Infrastructure (Emergency)

[Public Law, Chapter 33](#)

This law creates the HoME Resiliency Program within the Bureau of Insurance to make grants to Maine residents for roof replacements and making homes more flood resilient. The program is available to Maine homeowners.

[LD 124](#)

An Act to Protect the Right to Food

[Public Law, Chapter 309](#)

This law amends state law to recognize the right to food in hunger reduction strategies and expands the Maine Food Sovereignty Act to apply to all local food ordinances. It allows collaboration on edible landscaping in public spaces and permits municipalities, counties, and plantations to regulate vegetable gardens, food forests, and community gardens. The law authorizes the Department of Agriculture to lease public lands for food cultivation and prioritizes applicants with histories of generational poverty or veterans for certain grants and leases.

[LD 130](#)

An Act to Establish the PFAS Response Program and to Modify the Fund to Address PFAS Contamination

[Public Law, Chapter 65](#)

This law creates the PFAS Response Program to manage PFAS contamination in agriculture. It sets limits on PFAS in farm products, bans the sale of products that exceed certain limits, and provides support and research for affected producers. The department may sell contaminated property and deposit proceeds into the PFAS Fund.

[LD 356](#)

Resolve, Directing the Board of Pesticides Control to Prohibit the Use of Rodenticides in Outdoor Residential Settings

[Resolve, Chapter 47](#)

This resolve requires the Board of Pesticides Control to ban rodenticide use, including baits, in outdoor residential areas. Certified pesticide applicators are exempt. The board must report on the ban's progress to the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee by January 15, 2026.

Bills Passed into Law

[LD 556](#)

An Act to Preserve Heating and Energy Choice by Prohibiting a Municipality from Prohibiting a Particular Energy System or Energy Distributor

[Public Law, Chapter 154](#)

This law prohibits municipalities from banning individuals or entities, including businesses, from using their preferred heating or energy systems to meet their needs.

[LD 597](#)

An Act to Direct the Public Utilities Commission to Conduct Procurements for Energy or Renewable Energy Credits (Emergency)

[Public Law, Chapter 392](#)

This law requires the Public Utilities Commission to hold competitive solicitation to procure renewable energy or credits, targeting at least 5% of Maine's retail electricity sales for 2023. Contracts must likely deliver net benefits to ratepayers. Energy contracts must include provisions reducing payments during negative price periods unless exceptions are approved to protect cost-effectiveness and renewable resource operation.

[LD 1158](#)

An Act to Expand Appliance Energy and Water Standards

[Public Law, Chapter 184](#)

This law expands Maine's list of restricted appliances and products by prohibiting the sale of additional items manufactured on or after January 1, 2027, if included in rules adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection. Newly added categories include commercial dishwashers, food steamers, fryers, ovens, battery chargers, computer server power supplies, residential ventilating fans, and water softeners.

[LD 1245](#)

An Act to Establish a Fund and Council to Support Working Waterfronts

[Public Law, Chapter 265](#)

This law establishes the Working Waterfront Advisory Council to monitor and report on the status and challenges of Maine's working waterfront.

The council must submit its first report by February 1, 2026, and annually thereafter. It also requires the Director of the Maine Office of Community Affairs to report annually on related initiatives, including input from local and regional stakeholders.

[LD 1270](#)

An Act to Establish the Department of Energy Resources

[Public Law, Chapter 476](#)

This law creates a State Department of Energy Resources. It gives the department authority to lead energy procurement processes in coordination with the Maine Public Utilities Commission (PUC). The department may conduct a competitive solicitation every three years if the PUC determines that benefits to ratepayers will exceed costs.

Bills Passed into Law

[LD 1306](#) **An Act to Continue the Exemption for Polystyrene Foam Disposable Food Service Containers Prepackaged at Wholesale (Emergency)
[Public Law, Chapter 151](#)**

The law delays until July 1, 2027, the expansion of Maine’s ban on polystyrene foam food containers to include packaging for raw meat, seafood, poultry, and eggs. It also delays the repeal of exemptions for prepackaged polystyrene containers sold at retail. The Maine Grocers and Food Producers Association was instrumental in advancing this policy.

[LD 1308](#) **Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to Examine Issues Related to Public Access to Privately Owned Lands (Emergency)
[Resolve, Chapter 82](#)**

This law creates a working group, led by the Departments of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, to explore ways to maintain and expand public access to privately owned lands in Maine. The group must include both landowners and land users, and a report with findings and recommendations is due to the Legislature by February 15, 2026.

[LD 1423](#) **An Act to Improve Recycling by Updating the Stewardship Program for Packaging
[Public Law, Chapter 383](#)**

This law makes several changes to Maine’s packaging stewardship program.

It exempts program requirements for the first 15 tons of packaging used for perishable food sold or distributed in Maine during the prior year. It also ensures “producers” are not penalized for using packaging that cannot legally include post-consumer recycled content due to federal or state regulations.

It requires participating municipalities to collect and recycle packaging that is “readily recyclable” and generated locally. The law also updates certain definitions and states how product compliance information must be shared, while allowing the stewardship organization to recommend changes to producer payment schedules based on determined statewide recycling needs.

For more on Maine’s Stewardship Program for Packaging, visit [Maine.gov/dep](https://maine.gov/dep).

[LD 1697](#) **An Act to Increase Penalties to Deter Violations of the Laws Regarding Improper Pesticide Use
[Public Law, Chapter 292](#)**

This law raises fines for pesticide violations, with steeper penalties for major violations or repeat offenses. It also increases fines for recordkeeping violations and directs regulators to create a penalty schedule, allow lawsuits for contamination affecting multiple properties, require restoration of damaged areas, and restrict the use of certain chemicals.

The penalty does not apply to private applicators using general-use pesticides, such as those commonly used for basic pest control or landscaping.

Bills Passed into Law

[LD 1792](#) **An Act Regarding the Energy Policy of the State (Emergency)**
[Public Law, Chapter 391](#)

This law requires the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to establish, by October 2025, a new rate design for investor-owned utilities to recover post-restructuring stranded costs. It groups certain customer classes together and assigns specific charges for cost recovery. Starting July 2028, the PUC must update stranded cost allocations and rates every three years, with adjustments as needed, and ensure the approach supports beneficial electrification across all customer classes.

Housing

[LD 1246](#) **Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development to Convene a Working Group to Review the Process of Setting Impact Fees (Emergency)**
[Resolve, Chapter 85](#)

This resolve requires the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development to convene a working group to study the process by which municipalities impose impact fees. The department must submit a report based on the study, including recommendations and any suggested legislation, to the relevant legislative committee by December 3, 2025.

[LD 1375](#) **Resolve, to Establish a Working Group to Address Regulatory Barriers to Housing Construction**
[Resolve, Chapter 64](#)

This resolve directs the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development, Housing Opportunity Program, to convene a working group to examine and recommend solutions for regulatory barriers to housing construction in Maine. The program must submit a report based on the study, including recommendations and any suggested legislation, to the relevant legislative committee by December 31, 2025.

[LD 1829](#) **An Act to Build Housing for Maine Families and Attract Workers to Maine Businesses by Amending the Laws Governing Housing Density**
[Public Law, Chapter 385](#)

This law requires municipalities to allow a set number of residential units per lot based on location and access to public water and sewer. It limits local zoning restrictions on multi-unit housing, exempts projects with four units or fewer from planning board review, and removes owner-occupancy rules for accessory dwelling units. It adjusts rules around height restrictions, subdivision definitions, and training requirements for municipal board members.

Taxation & Revenue

[LD 68](#) **An Act to Amend the State Tax Laws**
[Public Law, Chapter 271](#)

This law clarifies that the tax on casual sales also applies to casual rentals. It confirms that the existing 15-day “safe harbor” applies to these casual rentals, meaning living quarters rented for 15 days or fewer in a year receive different tax treatment.

Bills Passed into Law[LD 221](#)**An Act to Address the Effect of Changes to Federal Income Tax Laws on Maine Income Tax Laws**[Public Law, Chapter 336](#)

This bill allows the Governor to temporarily adjust how Maine income tax is administered when there are changes to federal tax law and the Legislature hasn't had time to respond.

It ensures taxpayers can follow temporary guidance without being penalized if they comply with issued instructions.

[LD 288](#)**An Act to Make Technical Changes to Maine's Tax Laws**[Public Law, Chapter 113](#)

The law makes technical updates to Maine's tax laws. It clarifies that casual rentals do not qualify for the sales tax exemption on property leased for further rental and allows leased machinery and equipment to qualify for the exemption starting January 1, 2025.

[LD 1770](#)**Resolve, to Establish the Real Estate Property Tax Relief Task Force**[Resolve, Chapter 108](#)

This resolve creates the Real Estate Property Tax Relief Task Force to examine the effects of state-level property tax policy on municipalities. An interim report back from the task force is due January 15, 2026.

Bills Carried Over to 2026

Business & Labor

LD 54	An Act to Require Employers to Disclose Pay Ranges and Maintain Records of Employees' Pay Histories
LD 60	An Act to Allow Employees to Request Flexible Work Schedules
LD 61*	An Act to Regulate Employer Surveillance to Protect Workers
LD 355	An Act to Advance the Maine Retirement Savings Program
LD 364	An Act to Promote Economic Development in Maine
LD 571	An Act to Improve Conditions for Maine Workers and Retirees
LD 574	An Act to Improve Labor Conditions for Workers in the State
LD 595	An Act to Update Privacy Protections for Maine Consumers
LD 599	An Act to Codify the Federal Salary Threshold for Overtime Pay
LD 669	An Act Regarding Labor
LD 799	An Act to Report Gender Wage Gaps
LD 1389	An Act to Create the Building Opportunity Through Out-of-school Time Program
LD 1773	An Act to Criminalize Certain Offenses Related to Gift Card Thefts
LD 1822	An Act to Enact the Maine Online Data Privacy Act
LD 1971*	An Act to Protect Workers in This State by Clarifying the Relationship of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies with Federal Immigration Authorities

Energy & Environment

LD 32	An Act to Repeal the Laws Regarding Net Energy Billing
LD 307	An Act Regarding Energy, Utilities and Technology
LD 473	An Act to Support Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry in Maine
LD 474	An Act to Improve Maine's Environment and Protect Natural Resources
LD 839	An Act to Lower Consumer Electricity Costs by Prohibiting the Recovery Through Rates of Costs Attributable to Net Energy Billing

Bills Carried Over to 2026

- [LD 473](#) An Act to Support Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry in Maine
- [LD 725](#) An Act to Advance Equitable Energy Policy in Maine
- [LD 1936](#) An Act to Provide Greater Equity in and Reduce Costs Related to the State's Net Energy Billing Program

Government Operations & Bonds

- [LD 564](#) An Act to Improve the Operations of State Government
- [LD 695](#) An Act Regarding the Laws of the State of Maine
- [LD 699](#) An Act Providing Appropriations and Allocations for State Government Operations
- [LD 705](#) An Act to Provide Appropriations and Allocations for the Operations of State Government
- [LD 780](#) An Act to Fund State Government
- [LD 781](#) An Act to Provide for Appropriations and Allocations
- [LD 1004](#) An Act to Ensure the Proper Operation of the State
- [LD 1312](#) An Act to Provide a Source of Revenue for School Construction and for the Land for Maine's Future Trust Fund
- [LD 1521](#) An Act to Require All State Agencies to Provide a Zero-based Budget Once Every 10 Years

Housing

- [LD 128](#) An Act to Support Permitting of Certain Multifamily Housing Developments Under the Site Location of Development Laws
- [LD 690](#) An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Provide Funding for Affordable and Low-income Housing Programs
- [LD 916](#) An Act to Promote Investment in Housing

Intoxicating Products

- [LD 1365](#) An Act to Allow Consumption of Adult Use Cannabis in Locally Approved Hospitality Lounges
- [LD 1983](#) An Act to Protect Minors from Intoxicating Hemp-derived Products by Regulating Those Products Under the Adult Use Cannabis Laws

Bills Carried Over to 2026**Taxation & Revenue**

LD 191	An Act to Support Maine Businesses by Establishing a Pass-through Entity Tax and Tax Credit
LD 229	An Act to Bring Fairness in Income Taxes to Maine Families by Adjusting the Tax Brackets and Tax Rates
LD 483	An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Secure Prosperity for Maine Families and Businesses
LD 691	An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Further Investment in Maine-based Businesses
LD 713	An Act Regarding Taxation
LD 714	An Act to Amend the Tax Laws
LD 883	An Act to Reduce the Tax Burden on Maine Citizens
LD 1089	An Act to Permanently Fund 55 Percent of the State's Share of Education by Establishing a Tax on Incomes of More than \$1,000,000
LD 1682	An Act to Increase Fairness in the Income Tax by Adding Higher Tax Brackets and Tax Rates
LD 1812	An Act to Provide Low-interest Loans for Accredited College Graduates Entering Trade Professions and an Employer Tax Credit for Trade Tool Reimbursements

** Indicates that a bill has been sent to the Governor but is being "held." The Governor will have three days to act on the bill once the legislature reconvenes.*

Bills that Failed

Business & Labor

LD 53	An Act to Establish the November General Election Day as a State Holiday
LD 112	An Act to Promote Opportunities by Establishing a Student Wage
LD 151	An Act to Allow Businesses to Impose a Surcharge on Credit Card and Debit Card Transactions
LD 194	An Act to Improve the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act
LD 206	An Act to Protect Maine Businesses by Eliminating the Automatic Cost-of-living Adjustment to the Minimum Hourly Wage
LD 344	An Act to Repeal the Law Establishing the Maine Retirement Savings Board
LD 572	An Act to Improve Maine's Workers' Compensation Laws
LD 573	An Act to Improve Penalty Collection for Labor Protection Violations
LD 618	An Act to Allow Minors Under 16 Years of Age to Work Until 9 p.m. During the School Year and Until 10 p.m. During Summer Vacation
LD 644	An Act to Expand Employment Opportunities for Minor Students by Eliminating Certain Work Limitations
LD 652	An Act to Provide Qualifying Downtown Businesses and Developments with Assistance Paying Flood Insurance Premiums
LD 664	An Act to Improve Unemployment Insurance
LD 797	An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Work Search Efforts for Unemployment Benefits and to Eliminate Benefits for Temporary Unemployment
LD 833	An Act to Expand the Earned Paid Leave Exception
LD 853	An Act to Replace the Minimum Hourly Wage with a Regionally Based Living Wage
LD 941	An Act Requiring Employers to Disclose Wage Ranges in Job Postings
LD 992	An Act to Protect Consumers from Hidden Fees and Ensure Transparent Pricing for Live Event Tickets and Short-term Lodging
LD 998	An Act Regarding an Employer's Authority to Prohibit an Employee from Storing a Firearm in the Employee's Vehicle
LD 1088	An Act to Enact the Maine Consumer Data Privacy Act

Bills that Failed

LD 1181	An Act Regarding the Designation of Short-term Rental Units as Commercial or Residential in Use
LD 1224	An Act to Comprehensively Protect Consumer Privacy
LD 1257	An Act Regarding Labeling of Genetically Engineered Food Products
LD 1267	Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor to Convene a Task Force to Examine and Study Issues Relating to the Gap Between the Economic Output and Wages of Workers in the State
LD 1269	Resolve, to Study the Costs and Funding of a Universal Health Care Plan for Maine
LD 1272	An Act to Address the Housing Crisis by Reducing Barriers to Building More Accessory Dwelling Units
LD 1283	An Act to Allow Employees Covered Under the Maine Retirement Savings Program to Elect to Enroll and Unenroll in a Payroll Deduction for an Individual Retirement Account
LD 1597	An Act to Prohibit the Use of Dynamic Pricing for Certain Consumer Goods

Energy & Environment

LD 56	An Act to Remove the 5 Cent Fee for Bags in Retail Stores
LD 69	An Act to Repeal the Law Restricting the Use of Certain Plastic, Paper and Single-use Bags
LD 257	An Act to Eliminate the Practice of Net Energy Billing
LD 359	An Act to Prohibit Net Energy Billing by Certain Customers
LD 450	An Act to Lower Electricity Costs by Repealing the Laws Governing Net Energy Billing
LD 515	An Act to Reverse Recent Changes Made to the Law Governing Net Energy Billing and Distributed Generation
LD 1122	An Act to Amend the Law Banning Single-use Carry-out Bags
LD 1321	An Act to Reform Net Energy Billing by Establishing Limitations on the Programs' Duration and Compensation
LD 1628	An Act to Allow Municipalities to Regulate Exterior Lights
LD 1928	An Act to Prohibit Lodging Establishments from Providing Single-use Plastic Containers

Intoxicating Products

LD 302	An Act Regarding Maine's Cannabis Industry
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Bills that Failed

LD 548	An Act Regarding Intoxicating Hemp Products
LD 636	An Act to Remove the Limit on Free Promotional Merchandise Bars and Restaurants May Accept from Vendors
LD 684	An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Liquor and Lottery Operations
LD 1334	An Act to Require Retailers to Place Any Liquor That Is Accessible to Customers at Least 48 Inches from the Payment Terminal
LD 1354	An Act Regarding Liquor Licensing in Outdoor Stadiums and Exclusivity in Licensee Agreements
LD 1376	An Act to Increase the Acceptable Level of Alcohol in a Low-alcohol Spirits Product and to Increase Availability of Those Products
LD 1754	An Act to Provide for the Direct Shipment of Spirits to Consumers
LD 1960	An Act to Exempt Electronic Smoking Devices or Other Tobacco Products Containing Ingestible Hemp from the Tax Imposed on Tobacco Products

Paid Family & Medical Leave

LD 106	An Act Regarding the Taxation of Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits
LD 406	An Act to Repeal the Laws Providing for Paid Family and Medical Leave and to Reimburse Taxpayers
LD 539	An Act to Repeal the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program
LD 575	An Act to Ensure Equitable Access to the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program by Removing the Requirement That Leave Must Be Scheduled to Prevent Undue Hardship on the Employer
LD 952	An Act to Exempt Agricultural Employers and Employees from the Maine Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program
LD 1169	An Act Regarding Employer Payments for the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program
LD 1249	An Act to Delay Payment of Benefits Under the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program
LD 1273	An Act to Make Paid Family and Medical Leave Voluntary
LD 1307	An Act to Suspend the Remittance Obligation for Paid Family and Medical Leave Private Plan Users
LD 1333	An Act to Make Changes to the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program
LD 1712	An Act to Amend the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program to Balance Support of Businesses and Employees

Bills that Failed

State Government Operations

- [LD 236](#) An Act to Provide Legislative Oversight of the Rule-making Petition Process
- [LD 490](#) An Act to Provide for a 5-year Automatic Repeal of Agency Rules
- [LD 551](#) An Act to Restore Balanced Emergency Powers

Taxation & Revenue

- [LD 115](#) An Act to Assess Impact Fees on Megayachts
- [LD 203](#) An Act to Provide an Income Tax Credit for Employer-supported Child Care
- [LD 225](#) An Act to Reduce Property Taxes and Finance Public School Construction and Education Through a 3 Percent Sales Tax on Hotel and Lodging Place Rentals
- [LD 283](#) An Act to Expand Local Revenues by Including Meals and Lodging Sales Tax Revenue Under the State-Municipal Revenue Sharing Program
- [LD 291](#) An Act to Eliminate the Lodging Tax on Campground Sites and Revert to Using the Current Sales Tax
- [LD 440](#) Resolve, to Study the Economic Effects of Instituting a Seasonal Sales Tax
- [LD 632](#) An Act to Allow a Local Option Sales Tax on Short-term Lodging to Fund Affordable Housing
- [LD 671](#) An Act to Abolish the Maine Income Tax and Establish a Zero-based Budget
- [LD 746](#) An Act to Authorize a Local Option Sales Tax on Short-term Lodging to Fund Municipalities and Affordable Housing
- [LD 856](#) An Act to Phase Out the Income Tax
- [LD 908](#) An Act to Eliminate the Sales Tax on Prepared Foods and Support the State's Hospitality Industry
- [LD 1330](#) An Act to Clarify That a Business's License or Subscription to Use Software Is Not Considered a Lease for the Purposes of Sales and Use Tax
- [LD 1476](#) An Act to Support Maine's Homeless Shelters by Imposing a Fee for Booking Hotels, Short-term Rentals and Recreational Vehicle Camping Reservations
- [LD 1504](#) An Act to Support Small Businesses by Providing a Refundable Tax Credit to Certain Businesses to Offset Credit and Debit Card Transaction Fees
- [LD 1505](#) An Act to Phase out the Sales and Use Tax

Bills that Failed

LD 1622	An Act to Exempt Certain Income from State Income Tax
LD 1641	An Act to Allow Municipalities to Implement a Local Option Sales Tax
LD 1807	An Act to Expand the Sales Tax to Luxury Services and Adjust the Sales Tax on Rental Cars
LD 1809	An Act to Further Stabilize Highway Fund Revenue
LD 1857	An Act to Expand Property Tax Relief for Veterans and Their Survivors and to Modify Certain Corporate Tax Expenditures

Policy Area Summaries

Labor & Employment

The Labor Committee handles legislation related to wages, scheduling, benefits, and workplace oversight. Unlike most other committees where collaboration was possible, the Labor Committee advanced several partisan priorities this session, often along party lines and with little effort to find middle ground. Proposals around flexible scheduling, pay range disclosures, employee surveillance, and other workplace regulations all moved forward without serious opportunities for compromise.

One of the most notable moves was the committee's refusal to consider even modest, good-faith proposals to improve Maine's new Paid Family & Medical Leave (PFML) law. Suggestions came from both the business community and some members of the Democratic caucus; however, majority-party leadership held the line, blocking changes that would have made the program more workable for employers. With one of the most generous PFML laws in the country now on the books, the lack of flexibility raises real questions about how implementation will impact businesses across Maine.

Taxation

The Taxation Committee reviews policy around income taxes, local option taxes, corporate disclosures, and related issues. This year, we led the successful effort to defeat three separate proposals that would have raised the lodging sales tax. One of those bills advanced from committee on a party-line vote but that was decisively rejected on the House and Senate floors.

We also worked closely with Maine Revenue Services and the Governor's Office on a fix to address newly implemented recurring sales tax on rentals of personal property—such as ski and golf equipment. A compromise (LD 1211) passed both chambers, but now sits on the Special Appropriations Table, where it is competing for limited funding alongside hundreds of other bills.

Energy & Environment

Soaring energy transmission and distribution costs prompted lawmakers to revisit Maine's net energy billing (NEB) program. The new law removes "front-of-the-meter" projects from eligibility, adds a kilowatt-hour charge to help offset ratepayer burden, and requires the design of a replacement program. These changes are expected to reduce costs by \$77 million annually through 2042—about a 30% reduction from projected NEB costs, which were estimated at \$240 million per year.

The Environment and Natural Resources Committee advanced modest improvements to Maine's Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) law, which attempts to shift the cost of managing packaging waste onto producers. Changes included aligning definitions with other states, clarifying important terms like "consumer" and "producer," and easing the proposed payment schedule ahead of full program rollout.

Policy Area Summaries

Consumer Data Privacy

Once again, efforts to pass comprehensive consumer data privacy legislation stalled. LD 1822, modeled after Maryland's restrictive law, passed committee along party lines but was not taken up by the House. This bill would have placed major restrictions on how small businesses use digital marketing tools like targeted advertising.

LD 1822 runs counter to the national trend: 17 other states have adopted consensus-based privacy frameworks that protect consumers while still allowing small businesses to stay competitive. Through direct outreach and member engagement, we highlighted the real-world impacts of a restrictive, one-size-fits-all approach. These concerns, along with growing hesitation about unintended consequences, likely contributed to the House leadership's decision not to advance the bill. It remains in "unfinished business" status and could be reconsidered when lawmakers return in January 2026.

Housing

Workforce housing remains one of the most pressing long-term challenges facing Maine's employers. While there is widespread agreement on the need for action, the legislature did not advance significant statewide housing reform this session. We continue to support policies that incentivize new housing development and are exploring how employers might play a greater role in local workforce housing solutions.